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ABSTRACT

This handbook is designed to provide practical aid to those who have charge of the planning and organization of a youth conference, Defined as a conference to provide practical information as well as information about possible responsibilities, risks, and consequences of actions, related to the chosen conference topic. Suggestions are given for the selection of a chairperson, getting initial support and approval, determining expenses and defraying costs, publicity techniques, choosing a site, establishing conference rules, and extending invitations to school and board of education officials. Criteria for choosing certain conference styles are explained and the basic formats of the lecture and seminar styles are described. Steps in registration are outlined, and suggested contents for packets of information for participants are detailed. The importance of accounting for students/participants is emphasized, and methods for accountability are detailed. Suggestions for preparing a conference evaluation instrument are given. An extensive appendix is included providing lists of speaker possibilities, sample letters to high schools explaining the conference, a sample conference program for parents, and a parent permission slip allowing teens to attend the conference. Blank registration and master registration forms are given along with a sample evaluation sheet and item analysis form. Color coded seminar question sheets and lists of questions compiled from the sheets are included. A sample formal conference program is also provided. Examples in the appendix are for a conference on teenage pregnancy and birth defects. (NRB)

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ED255817

YOUTH CONFERENCE HANDBOOK

Brenda H. Brown
Williamsport High School
Williamsport, MD

Fall 1984

CG 018149

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the many persons who have contributed to our county's many successful Youth Conferences, I offer my sincere appreciation. Without their cooperation, encouragement, and assistance, the conferences and this handbook, would not be a reality.

I particularly wish to express my thanks to the present Executive Director of the Washington County March of Dimes, Sydnae Vanner; Joe Marschner, Director of Education, Washington County Hospital; Dr. Claud Kitchens, Superintendent of Washington County Schools; and the Washington County Elected Board of Education, B. Marie Byers, President, Robert W. Barnhart, Douglas Bachtell, Linda C. Irvin, and Clifford A. Metger.

Thanks also are in order to the principals of the Washington County High Schools for their cooperation in releasing of students and teachers to attend the annual conferences. These include Mr. Joseph Robeson, Boonsboro High School, Mr. J. Terry Masters, Clear Spring High School, Mr. Lawrence M. Cleaver, Hancock-Middle High School, Mr. James L. Conrad, North Hagerstown High School, Mr. Gerald Hammond, Smithsburg High School, Mr. Walter R. Galbraith, South Hagerstown High School, Mr. Kenneth Simcox, Williamsport High School.

A special thanks to C. Michael Sweeney, Washington County Guidance Supervisor, for his continued advice, support, and encouragement.

FOREWORD

Planning and organizing a Youth Conference is a rewarding experience for all those involved. The conference theme can provide an important focus for needs that are of interest to our youth. The examples provided in this handbook deal with the theme "Teenage Pregnancy and Birth Defects." The wording of the material can be easily adjusted to fit most any chosen conference title.

The purpose of a youth conference is to provide factual information, and inform participants as to possible responsibilities, risks, and/or consequences of their actions as it relates to the conference topic.

While the conference does have limited attendance, the "ripple effect" of the information disseminated by those in attendance through talking with freinds and sharing of written materials provided, reaches a far greater number than those actually in attendance.

All Evaluation results have indicated that the youth conference provides a very worthwhile learning experience to all those in attendance.

The time spent in planning such an event will provide enlightenment to the teens and faculty in attendance, be a good public relations tool and provide a feeling of professional satisfaction to those involved in its planning. Good luck!

Mrs. Brenda H. Brown
Guidance Counselor
Williamsport High School
Williamsport, MD 21795

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GETTING STARTED

The first consideration in planning a youth conference is the acquisition of a leader or chairperson. This person's skills should include organization, diplomacy, and a non-procrastinator. Possibilities for spearheading the effort might include guidance counselors, teachers, March of Dimes Executive Director, or a volunteer from the community.

INITIAL SUPPORT AND APPROVAL

After getting the local MOD's approval, the next step is the school superintendent's blessings. Prior to the meeting, make sure you have a clear idea of your conference plans. Inquire as to any additional approval that may be needed, such as the elected Board of Education.

When contacting these people, you may want to use an introductory letter, followed by a phone call to arrange a meeting.

When meeting with the superintendent, have an idea of the proposal conference title, possible dates, times, and places. As "selling points," if necessary, places holding successful conferences could be used as a reference. If available, local teenage pregnancy/birth defect statistics may be used, or, if unavailable, state and/or national statistics.

Principals may appreciate being asked for input concerning a specific conference date due to timelines involving end of the marking period, vacations, etc.

EXPENSES

The total cost of the conference will probably be between $600 - $800. These figures may vary depending on the number of speakers, lunch provisions, and printing costs.

Speakers are reimbursed for travel expenses (mileage, meals, lodging) plus a $75.00 honorarium for doctors, (M.D.'s and Ph.D's) while others receive $50.00 plus expenses.

Costs can frequently be defrayed by appealing to local philantropic organizations such as Soroptimist, Business/Professional Women's Club, etc. To encourage funding from an organization, a list of needs may be presented, with an appeal to fund one or more of those needs. The list may include each speaker's approximate cost, the lunch expenses, and printing costs (if any).

FINDING A SITE

Before finding a suitable site, the planned number of participants must be approximated. I have found that 150 participants, which includes students, faculty, staff, and visitors is probably the maximum size for allowing everyone to obtain the greatest benefits. Your student population will probably be around 120-130. A number greater than this seems to lead to more chances for distractions and inattentiveness.

The kind of facilities needed will largely depend on the conference style selected (see under conference style). Possibilities include local churches, community colleges, and local hospital auditoriums (may include permissable, tour of labor, delivery, etc.).

The cost of the site will hopefully be donated, with its selection and confirmation arranged well in advance.

Before confirmation of the site, arrange an inspection, checking for room sizes, restroom accomodations, electrical outlets, lunch area possibilities, and activities going on simultaneously that may cause distractions, such as dance classes, etc.

CONFERENCE RULES

To help ensure success, a few guidelines are necessary. If local community mores (customs) are conservative, the conference should only be open to high school juniors and seniors. This also helps eliminate the transportation problem. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the conference. Most juniors and seniors have their dirver's license.

Conference participants should be self-disciplined and known to have been no behavior problems at school. A few unruly students can dampen the spirit of the day considerably.

Participants must be able to stay for the entire day or not participate at all. Athletic practices, doctor appointments, etc. must be arranged for attendance after the conference. Drop in friends (usually boyfriends) are not welcome. During breaks, going to lunch, etc., possible exits should have volunteers standing by them to discourage early exits.

No smoking permitted.

PUBLICITY

Publicity is important because it helps foster good community relations. Letting others know that your making an effort to go the "extra mile" with youth is important. This provides community "visibility" of the endeavors of the local groups responsible for organizing the conference.

Modes of coverage may include radio, newspaper, and a local television station. Some resistance may be shown concerning coverage since it is a "closed" conference, with only teacher selected students attending. However, this can be overcome by explaining the need for positive coverage to enhance community relationships.

Some suggestions for T.V. coverage include being included in local "community events" telecast, or local "community events" telecast, or local talk show concerning happenings in the area. Talk shows are also a good possibility for use on the radio. If possible, have the local newspaper and T.V. present at the conference. Post conference coverage can be quite thorough, and, the fact that it's a closed conference is not an issue "after the fact."

CONFERENCE VISITORS

In order to establish and keep a good working relationship with the local educational aristocracy, it is important that invitations are extended to the school superintendent, principals of schools participating, elected board of education, (if they were included in the approval process), and any others deemed necessary. Several weeks before the conference, programs should be mailed to the guests.

The rate of "no shows" from these invitations will probably run over 80%.

CONFERENCE STYLE

The style of conference chosen depends on many criteria. These include number of rooms available at your site, amount of money available for speakers, and amount of control desired over audience.

Regardless of style, a moderator will be needed. The duties include making opening remarks, introducing speakers, explaining procedures, and giving directions. (Such things as bathroom locations, lunch rotations, filling out evaluations, etc. are examples of these duties).

The Lecture Style consists of speakers addressing the entire audience for approximately 30 minutes, with 10 additional minutes allowed for questions from the audience. Five speakers are the maximum recommended for the day. Lunch can be served in shifts, with those not eating, watching a timely film such as "Teenage Father" or "Mother, Child."

Benefits of the Lecture Style: Easy to arrange; audience "contained."

Possible Disadvantages: Many speakers to reimburse; students may be relectant to ask questions in such a large group; lack of depth in exploring topics presented.

The Seminar Style includes three speakers giving 30 minute presentations in the morning with students rotating in small groups to each speaker in the afternoon. At the conclusion of each 30 minute lecture, students fill out colored coded "thought provoking" question sheets (See Appendix I). Students have these sheets in their packets they receive at registration. Conference participants hand in sheets to moderator after having 5 minutes to complete them. During lunch, speakers are given their sheets to examine and use as a springboard for discussion in their afternoon seminars.

For afternoon rotations, students may be more open with the speakers if there are no faculty members present. All adults could be placed in a group by themselves. To ensure equal distribution of students in afternoon seminars, a name tag color coding system is recommended. When names of conference participants are received by the conference chairperson, color coded name tags (4 rotations - 4 colors) are used. For example, all faculty and visitors would have red name tags, with all other students equally divided between gold, green, and blue tags. The tags are clipped to packets to be distributed when students register. (See under registration) If three speakers are used, the fourth afternoon rotation could be a timely movie. Four rotations are used to keep seminar groups small, if total conference participants (adults and students) number 125-150.

REGISTRATION

This is probably the area where attention to details is of utmost importance. Accurate registration provides a solid conference foundation and the accountability of students.

Principals and/or guidance counselors at schools being invited are good resources in finding out what teachers may be interested in bringing students to the conference. Teachers that teach courses dealing with some aspect of the conference theme should be given first choice at allowing their students to attend. Schools where more than one teacher is interested in having their students attend may split the allotted number of students between themselves and the faculty rotate the years they attend. (Unless the principals allow all interested faculty to attend.)

Designated teachers will receive a packet of information including an explanatory letter about the conference. In addition, information on the number of students allotted per school will be included and that student selection is left entirely to the teachers. Possible suggested methods of selection include a lottery drawing, grades, discipline reports received, and those willing to orally and/or in writing submit a conference report are a few selection suggestions.

Also included in the packet is a one page informal program outline for parental review (See appendix C). The permission forms included in the packet (See appendix D) may be worded to best suit your school's policy. The informal outline and permission slips are given to students allowed to attend.

When teachers have received the signed permission slips from the students, they use the registration sheet included in the packet (See Appendix E) to list name, ages, and telephone numbers of all students attending in addition to the name of the faculty person attending. The student's phone number is included in case of an emergency. Permission slips, along with the completed registration form are mailed to the conference chairperson approximately two weeks prior to the conference.

When this material is received by the conference chairperson, names listed on the registration sheet are checked against permission slips received. Any discrepancies need to be rectified.

Students' names are next placed on name tags with the school represented also on the tag.

A recommendation for use by students and others attending is a prepared packet of information received by participants when they register. This packet (large manila envelopes work well) contains appropriate literature provided by agencies which enhances conference theme. For example, if the theme is Birth Defects, then the local March of Dimes may be able to provide a wealth of phamphlets, sheets, etc. free of charge for inclusion in each packet. Also included would be the formal conference program (See Appendix K), the evaluation sheet, and, if applicable, the seminar question sheets.

Name tags can be the key to the smooth movement of participants throughout the day. If lunch is served in shifts, color coded tags serve as a quick, easy and accurate method of dividing the group. This is also true for the seminar style conference.

Accountability of students is an important issue. Students absent need to be reported to the teacher representative from their school. The registration process can easily provide for accountability. A suggested method includes clipping name tags to the outside of the packet of materials and arranging them alphabetically by schools. The alphabetized packets with name tags can then be divided into boxes, perhaps two schools per box. A master registration list (See Appendix F) containing an alphabetical listing of all students by school is also prepared.

At registration on the day of the conference, the boxes of packets with name tags by schools are placed on tables. The tables are clearly marked as to what schools are represented. The personnel helping at registration can then have two checks of a person's presence, the name tag and the master registration list. The student, upon registration, finds the table containing the box from their school, gives the registrar their name and then receives the appropriate packet with name tag. The registrar, at the time the student picks up their packet, marks their name off the master registration list. Name tags left after registration are checked against remaining names on the master registration list. At lunch, or other appropriate break, teachers are given the name tags of no-shows, as well as a written list. The unclaimed name tag given to the teacher is fairly undisputable evidence that the student didn't attend, which may help if this is contested.

EVALUATION

An evaluation tool is one of the cornerstones of a successful conference. The results help you to decide what needs improved and identifies weak areas. The evaluation instrument needs to be quick, (5 minutes or less to complete) easy to complete and simple to analyze. Questions should reflect all phases of the conference day. An area for general comment is always a plus, as participants can then more fully elaborate on an area of concern or praise. Preparing an item analysis (if your questionnaire lends itself) is very helpful in detailing results and is impressive to conference supporters to whom results are mailed. Students are given time at the end of the conference to complete the questionnaire and drop it in a box provided by the door upon leaving.

Significant conference supporters should receive a "thank you" and a copy of the evaluation results. The people might include the school superintendent, principals, clubs, and individuals donating time, talent, and money.

A compilation of the student concerns as expressed on the seminar sheets may make interesting documentation. This could be sent to concerned school officials to help in their needs assessments for course work. Also, local community organizations may be able to use such information in a positive way to justify needed programming. (See Appendix J)

SIGNS

Remember when you've arrived at a conference and were befuddled as to where to go, which building to enter, etc., because of a lack of directional signs? Think of yourself as a teenager in that situation! A conference with adequate directional signs greatly enhances it's smooth operation. When planning needed signs, pretend you're a teen, arriving in the parking lot for the very first time. Take yourself through the conference day, asking do I need signs:

1. from the parking lot directing me to the main entrance?
2. indicating where registration will be?
3. plainly marking restrooms?
4. showing where lunch will be?
5. directing me to where the speakers will be?
6. any others?

The more clearly marked areas, the less confusion, and questioning by students as to where things are located. Keep in mind that this is an exciting day for them and simply telling them where various areas are located may not be adequate.

Appendix

"A" Speaker Possibilities

"B" Dear Educator

"C" Sample Program for Parents

"D" Permission Form

"E" Blank Registration Form

"F" Master Registration Form

"G" Evaluation Sheet

"H" Item Analysis

"I" Color Coded Seminar Question Sheets

"J" Compiled Questions From Coded Sheets

"K" Sample Formal Conference Programs

Appendix "A" – Speaker Possibilities

Genetics

Laird Jackson, M.D.
Director, Division of Medical Genetics
Jefferson Medical College
Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, PA 19107

R. Stephen Amato, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Section of Medical Genetics
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Morgantown, WV 26506

Parenting

Charlotte G. Garman, Ed.D.
1434 Hollywood Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601

W.M. Smith, Jr.
428 East Hamilton Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Dr. Edwin Gibson
Education, Human Development and Behavior
West Chester State College
West Chester, PA 19380

H. Charles Jones
Department of Education
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Newborn

Jeffery Maisels, M.D.
Chief, Division of Newborn Medicine
The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, PA 17033

Teen Pregnancy, Parenting, Affects of Drugs on Fetus

Richard (Rick) Jones, M.D.
Associate Director, Division of Adolescent Medicine
Georgetown University Medical Center
Bles Building Rooms 1-18
3800 Reservoir Road
Washington, DC 20007

Drugs and Their Effects on the Fetus

Dr. Cheston Berlin
Professor of Pediatrics
Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, PA 17033

Appendix B

October 5, 1982

Dear Educator:

It is with much enthusiasm that we are looking forward to our fourth annual March of Dimes Youth Conference on Birth Defects and Teenage Pregnancy. The purpose of this this conference is to enlighten teenagers to the responsibilities of parenthood and the possible pitfalls of an adolescent pregnancy. This year's conference will consist of three speakers presenting a morning lecture with the afternoon devoted to smaller group seminars with each presenter. It is hoped this will encourage more exchange of information between the students and presenter.

The enclosed programs will provide you with more detailed information about our conference. We would like each county high school to send twenty students and one faculty representative. Selections of the participants is the responsibility of the educator. Senior students should be given first priority with juniors filling any remaining vacancies. If a student has attended a previous conference, they are ineligible to attend again.

Each student chosen to participate in the conference should be given an outline of the conference to show parents (which they may keep) and a parental permission form to have the parents sign and return to you. Students will not report to school that day, but rather, directly to the conference. Students are totally responsible for their own transportation. Students are required to spend the entire day at the conference. Those unable to do so should not be considered.

Please return to me not later than Friday, October 22, 1982, the completed registration list of students attending and their signed parental permission forms. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 223-7400, extension 35.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Brenda H. Brown, Counselor
Chairperson, Youth Conference '82

Enclosures:
1. Outline of Program for each student to show parent
2. Parental Permission Forms
3. Registration Forms

Appendix C

Fifth Annual Youth Conference on
Teenage Pregnancy and Birth Defects
November 17, 1983
St. John's Lutheran Church
141 South Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD

PROGRAM

8:30	8:50	–	Registration
8:50	9:00	–	Introductions
9:00	9:30	–	"Genetic Defects and Other Anomalities" Sandra G. Marchese, M.S. Assistant Director of the Department of Reproductive Services Magee Women's Hospital Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
9:30	9:40	–	Comments/Break
9:40	10:10	–	"Parenting – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow" Dr. Charlotte Garmen National Lecturer and Consultant in Parent Education
10:10	10:20	–	Comments/Break
10:20	10:50	–	"Teenage Sexuality and Potential Parenthood" Dr. Richard Jones Division of Adolescent Medicine Georgetown Hospital Washington, D.C.
10:50	10:55	–	Comments
11:00	12:05	–	Lunch Rotation Slide-tape Program (hospital labor/delivery child development)
12:05	2:30	–	Seminar Rotations – Group broken into four groups with each one rotating to each of the three speakers for a seminar type discussion on the speaker's morning topic and a film, "Teenage Father"
2:30	2:40	–	Film: "Helping Hands"
2:40	3:00	–	Evaluation and Closing

Appendix D

_____
Date

_____ _____ has my permission to attend
(First) (Last)
the Fifth Annual Youth Conference on Birth Defects and Teenage Pregnancy to be held Thursday, November 17, 1983, from 8:45 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. at St. John's Lutheran Church. 141 South Potomac Street, Hagerstown, Maryland. I understand that I assume all responsibility for the transportation and safety of my child while he/she is involved in this activity. My child is also aware that courteous behavior is expected throughout the day.

_____
Parent/Guardian

Appendix E

REGISTRATION FORM

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON BIRTH DEFECTS AND ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

School Name: _____

	Students Participating	Telephone Number	Age
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			

Faculty Representative

1.			

Please also return the signed parental permission forms for each student participating.

RETURN TO: Mrs. Brenda H. Brown, Chairperson
March of Dimes Youth Conference
5 South Clifton Drive, Williamsport High School
Williamsport, MD 21795

Appendix F

REGISTRATION LIST

Fifth Annual Youth Conference
St. John's Lutheran Church
Hagerstown, Maryland
November 17, 1983

BOONSBORO HIGH SCHOOL – 13

Julie Neikirk, Faculty

Bente, Kim
Bradshaw, Margaret
Bussard, Lori
Clever, Connie
Dagenhart, Tammie
Eavey, Rose
May, Sherry
Myers, Karen
Shurg, Barbara
Spino, Angie
Wilson, Tai
Zeger, Cheryl

HIGHLAND VIEW ACADEMY – 10

Anne Swayze, Faculty

Bigford, Bruce
Brown, Tracey
Chavez, Paula
Davis, Roger
Evans, Jennifer
Kelley, Lisa
Snider, Jenny
Weber, Susan
Whitesides, Christine
Young, Paula

NORTH HAGERSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL – 7

Rosalie Leach, Faculty

Baker, Adriana
Brennan, Robin
Cosher, Lisa
House, Kathy
Jacobs, Belinda
Kirby, Sharon
Stickler, Pamela

CLEAR SPRING HIGH SCHOOL 9

Aline, Novak, Faculty

Atherton, Kim
Cole, Greg
Ernst, Tara
Fabijanski, Lisa
Green, Gary
Jenkins, Jeff
Leigh, Christine
Myers, Angie
Schnebly, Cathy

SMITHSBURG HIGH SCHOOL – 6

Cora Ferra, Faculty

Bailey, Valerie
Hargraves, Pamela
Hathcock, Tina
Leatherman, Caroline
McKeever, Michelle
Schroeder, Christine

WILLIAMSPORT HIGH SCHOOL – 30

Vickie Daub, Faculty

Ardinger, Kristie
Bloyer, Tammy
Burkett, Michelle
Byers, Ronda
Clark, Shelva
Earley, Leigh
Free, Missy
Giffin, Debbie
Gilbert, Renee
Hawbaker, Michelle
Kenney, Tanya
Kinzer, Heidi
Kovacs, Patty
Leatherman, Melissa
Malatt, Jackie
Mansfield, Donna
McGill, Dana
McPeak, Marna
Mongan, Tammy
Morrison, Susie
Piper, Kim
Posey, Lauri
Rhinehart, Denise
Sabine, Lisa
Semler, Joni
Short, Mary
Snyder, Billee Jo
Taylor, Jacki
Toms, Kim
Urkevich, Debbie

SOUTH HAGERSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL – 29

Loretta Homan, Faculty

Billmeyer, Angela
Bowers, Ronda
Cauffman, Tammi
Chapman, Chanda
Cromis, Shirley
Duffey, Cathleen
Fahey, Samantha
Grimes, Patti
Iseminger, Patty
Johnson, Melissa
Lockard, Tina
Love, Sylvia
Mackereth, Leslie
Milburn, Cathy
Miller, Christy
Miller, Michele
Mills, Clara
Mills, Patti
Myers, Tammi
Nelson, Melleta
Nicklas, Leona
Reid, Lisa
Rizer, Christina
Roach, Kim
Slick, Maria
Snyder, Carla
Strasser, Tammie
Vance, Stacy
White, Norma

HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL – 14

Joan Rohrer, Faculty

Fink, Connie
Fink, James
Hall, Juanita
Henson, Chris
Howell, Kenny
Hull, Lisa
Keefer, Melissa
McCucker, Michelle
McKinley, Shelly
Murray, Douglas
Shives, Tammy
Sipes, Brenda
Weller, Lisa
Weller, Michael

Appendix G

FIFTH ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE ON TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND BIRTH DEFECTS

November 17, 1983 – St. John's Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, Maryland

EVALUATION SHEET

Please check:

Student _____ Faculty _____ Other _____

In order to improve our conference each year, we heavily depend upon the input from our audience. Please give each of the following statements your honest consideration.

Listed below are statements with letters beside them which have the following meanings:

SD = Strongly Disagree D = Disagree A = Agree SA = Strongly Agree

After each statement, please circle the symbol that most closely matches your feeling.

1. The question sheets provided me with a way to ask the speakers questions that I may not have asked in the afternoon seminar. SD D A SA
2. I felt I learned a lot today. SD D A SA
3. I had no trouble understanding what the speakers were explaining. SD D A SA
4. I was embarrassed by some of the topics discussed. SD D A SA
5. I already knew most of the facts presented today. SD D A SA
6. I felt I learned more in the afternoon seminars than the morning lectures. SD D A SA
7. The films were very informative. SD D A SA
8. The slide-tape program of the hospital was interesting and worthwhile. SD D A SA
9. I felt I learned more in the morning lectures than the afternoon seminars. SD D A SA
10. The information I received in my packet looks informative and useful. SD D A SA
11. The most informative part of the conference for me was _____
12. The least informative part of the conference for me was _____
13. My suggestion(s) for improving next year's conference _____

The March of Dimes is developing a Teen Action Program. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talents in the community effort against birth defects, please provide the following information and you will be contacted concerning details.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Appendix H

Results of Youth Conference Evaluation
Held November 19, 1982 – St. John's Lutheran Church, Hagerstown

1. The question sheets provided me with a way to ask the speakers questions that I may not have asked in the afternoon seminar.
   SD – 4 D – 5 A – 73 SA – 47

2. I felt I learned a lot today.
   SD – 0 D – 1 A – 52 SA – 75

3. I had no trouble understanding what the speakers were explaining.
   SD – 3 D – 9 A – 55 SA – 59

4. I was embrassed by some of the topics discussed.
   SD – 76 D – 44 A – 4 SA – 1

5. I already knew most of the facts presented today.
   SD – 5 D – 49 A – 56 SA – 15

6. I felt I learned more in the afternoon seminars than the morning lectures.
   SD – 3 D – 21 A – 58 SA – 37

7. The films were very informative.
   SD – 3 D – 4 A – 64 SA – 50

8. The slide-tape program of the hospital was interesting and worthwhile.
   SD – 8 D – 22 A – 64 SA – 28

9. I felt I learned more in the morning lectures than the afternoon seminars.
   SD – 9 D – 75 A – 25 SA – 5

10. The information I received in my packet looks informative and useful.
    SD – 0 D – 1 A – 59 SA – 63

SD = Strongly Disagree D = Disagree A = Agree SA = Strongly Agree

11. The most informative part of the conference was _____
    Dr. Jones' afternoon session

12. The least informative part of the conference was _____
    Dr. Smith's presentation

Appendix I

5th Annual Youth Conference – November 17, 1983

Seminar Sheet – DR. CHARLOTTE GARMEN

Please check one – _____ Student _____ Faculty

In an effort to generate good discussions at the three seminar rotations scheduled this afternoon, please fill out this sheet as honestly and as thoughtfully as possible.

1. Some questions I would like to ask this afternoon at our seminar with Dr. Garmen are:

   A. _____

   B. _____

   C. _____

2. A question(s) or concern(s) I would like Dr. Garmen to speak on in our seminar this afternoon but I would be hesitant to bring up is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. The part of Dr. Garmen's talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

Appendix I

5th Annual Youth Conference – November 17, 1983

Seminar Sheet – SANDRA MARCHESE, M.S.

Please check one – _____ Student _____ Faculty

In an effort to generate good discussions at the three seminar rotations scheduled this afternoon, please fill out this sheet as honestly and as thoughtfully as possible.

1. Some questions I would like to ask this afternoon at our seminar with Sandra Marchese are:

   A. _____

   B. _____

   C. _____

2. A question(s) or concern(s) I would like Sandra Marchese to speak to in our seminar this afternoon but I would be hesitant to bring up is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. The part of Sandra Marchese's talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

Appendix I

5th Annual Youth Conference – November 17, 1983

Seminar Sheet – DR. RICHARD JONES

Please check one – _____ Student _____ Faculty

In an effort to generate good discussions at the three seminar rotations scheduled this afternoon, please fill out this sheet as honestly and as thoughtfully as possible.

1. Some questions I would like to ask this afternoon at our seminar with Dr. Jones are:

   A. _____

   B. _____

   C. _____

2. A question(s) or concern(s) I would like Dr. Jones to speak to in our seminar this afternoon but I would be hesitant to bring up is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. The part of Dr. Jones' talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

   _____

   _____

   _____

Appendix J

1983 Youth Conference Seminar Questions

Sandra Marchese, M.S.

1. & 2. Some question(s) or concern(s) I would like Sandra Marchese to speak in our seminar this afternoon, but I would be hesitant to bring up is:

What is the most dangerous drug?
Is there anyway to detect Spina Bifida?
What are the effects on drug and alcohol abuse with our future children?
As a teenager, if I were to drink on a weekly basis, is there a chance of my children getting Fetal Alcohol Syndrome?
Does the speed of a car effect your Reproductive System?
Does Marijuana effect the babies in the same way?
If your husband takes Heroin, could your baby be addicted?
What could happen if the father takes drugs, and drinks also?
How long before becoming pregnant should you stop using drugs and alcohol?
What do the chromosomes look like for a morphidite?
If the guy is on drugs when he gets a girl pregnant, will it still effect the baby?
What if you had taken drugs in the past, will or could it still have an affect on the baby?
What causes chromatin disorders?
Is there a high mortality rate for babies born with Spina Bifida?
Is there any way you can tell if an unborn child has any sort of disorders befire it is born, and if so, is there ways to help correct these disorders before birth?
What is the figure for Down Syndrome?
How can you prevent Epilepsy?
Most information was concerned with mother; what about father contributing to birth defects?
Are there any effects if male uses Dilantin?
What are the main reasons for prescribed drugs during pregnancy?
Is it possible for a child who has a Cleft Lip to have surgery that can correct it completely?
What effects does LSD have on the unborn child?
What causes Down Dyndrome?
What causes an extra #21 chromosomes in Down Syndrome children?
How can these defects be prevented?
Could you have more than 23 chromosomes in an ovum?
Is Down Syndrome hereditary?
How soon can this syndrome be distinguished by amnioscentesis?
Why is there not more information given to women when they are using prescribed drugs warning them of the effects they could cause, if they become pregnant?
What are some environmental factors that can cause genetic defects?
What are some ways to lessen the risks of having a baby with genetic defects, when it can't be determined whether the mother is a carrier or not?
What is the life expectancy of children effected by genetic defects?
Why do doctors prescribe harmful drugs?
How many parents refuse to accept the children with genetic disorders?
What does it mean to add 22 chromosomes?
What would the effects of using Pot have on an unborn child?
What changes in the diet would you have to make for PKU?
Is it ok to drink with modernation?
Can a child with Down Syndrome lead a normal life?

Sandra Marchese, M.S.

1. & 2. How are the cells prepared for a Karyotype?
What are some of the disorders that can be found with a Karyotype?
Are birth defects more common with a young teenager of 17 having a child?
What are some effects on sperm cells that may cause birth defects?
Will the use of any drug just once during the time of pregnancy hurt the unborn child?
Is there anyway to detect Down Syndrome in the womb?
Why do males have a "Y" and females an "X"?
Can Drug or Alcohol Abuse on the part of the mother effect a child if it is stopped before conception?
Can babies born from the mother taking drugs be addicted?
Can a retarded parent have a normal child?
What are the risks of abnormalities in a teenage pregnancy?
What can laxatives do to a pregnant woman if not prescribed?
If you have a child with one of these defects, will the March of Dimes help with the bills, or give any aid for a child who needs extra special care?
Is it harmful to take Aspirin or Tylenol during pregnancy?
Is it wise to have a child after 30?

3. The part of Sandra Marcheses' talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

The effect of alcohol and drugs on unborn babies.
What the chances of having a Down Syndrome child are
The photographs of the deformed babies: slides and discussion
The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and the street drugs
She presented a difficult topic in terms that could be understood by students even if they had no previous exposure to genetics.
Best presentation on genetics!
Types of birth defects and their causes
The part on the Cleft Lip and Palate
Never take any kind of drugs without first consulting a physician.
If your child has a few symptoms of Down Syndrome, it doesn't mean it is necessarily serious.
The part on Dilantin, and its effects. It seems strange to me that the use of the drug is widespread in even pregnant women.
How alcohol can effect the development of the fetus
Less chromosomes – still birth, More chromosomes – birth defects
Taking drugs and alcohol while you are pregnant
Coordination of slides along with her talk made it more understandable!
Facts on Spina Bifida
The risks of abnormalities in a teenage pregnancy
Alcohol is destructive to the fetus in any quantity.
Drug addicted babies
Diet of PKU children doesn't have to be controlled after the first 12 years of life, but should be controlled during pregnancy.

1983 Youth Conference Questions

Dr. Charlotte Garmen

1. & 2. Some question(s) or concern(s) I would like Dr. Garmen to speak to in our seminar this afternoon, but I would be hesitant to bring up is…

Do you feel parents should never hit their children on the head?
How to tell your parents that you are pregnant
How do you know when to put a limit on what you let your child do?
If you adopt a child, when do you tell it you're not their natural parents?
When should you discipline or punish?
Explain how to discipline a child.
Do you help, or ignore your daughter's pregnancy?
Do you think a woman should work with children before she has any of her own?
Why so hard on children?
Is it true if you shelter or restrain a child from social conduct, they will go wild, or not know how to say "no?"
When do you feel you should tell your parents that you are pregnant?
What if you don't have parents?
If you become pregnant, should you get married?
Why do parents have a hard time saying "I love you?"
How do you tell your children about love and making love?
What should you say if someone else's child asks you about making love?
At what age do you think is a good one to become a parent?
Is it true that parents who have had an illegitimate child are better toward that child when starting a new family?
Is it because that child is a reminder of the past?
The way you are raised does affect your reactions as a parent.
I'd think it would be difficult to change. I'm afraid to have children because I don't want them to go through what I did.
Why are parents hard to understand?
When you were raising your children, did you permit them to go away in a car with girlfriends and boyfriends?
How can you discipline a child, and let them know you are doing it for their own good, but that you still love them too?
What kind of discipline do you use when children just won't listen to their parents?
Why don't parents and children have the communication, or rapport, between them today like they once had?
Does a person's age have anything to do with being a good parent?
How, or when do you know if you love someone, and if that person is as sincere as you are?
Is there really a certain age for a woman to consider having children?
What part do you feel God plays in the family?
How do you go about teaching your children about the good things, along with some disappointments in life, and what to do or expect out of life?
Do you think parents have the right to totally control everything a child does?
Shouldn't a child have some freedom to make their own decisions?
How do you tell your children what love is really about, and explain to them how babies are conceived?
How can we keep respect of our peers and still suggest "right things to do?"

Dr. Garmen

1. & 2. Psychologically, what are the most formative years of a child's life?
At what age should you let your child be responsible for himself?
What should a girld do if she can't feel comfortable talking to her mother about a problem?
Where can I find her book?
Do you believe in spanking?
What grade level did you teach in school?
Did you disown your daughter when she told you she was pregnant?
What should you do if you come in contact with a child that is not your own, and he or she has not been disciplined very well? What are some ways you can help this child?
Is there a tape of her speech available?
What books are available on discipline?

3. The part of Dr. Garmens' talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

Love, Limits, and Leading
Parenthood is a very big responsibility.
Loving your children, and understanding them
Everything was fantastic – she was very with it!
Parenting begins, consists, and ends with love an communication.
When Dr. Garmen's daughter chose to get pregnant at the age of 15
The baby needs food, shelter, clothing, and an education by law.
Parents taking care of their children instead of the grandparents
Not to punish or hold a grudge toward a child for a mistake
There's more to parenting than just cuddling a baby. It's not all fun and games.
Love, no matter what, is unconditional.
Find a way to correct a child, but at the same time, show them that you love them.
Her openness, and how she dealt with problems. She is a leader in many ways!
Dr. Garmen's nice personality – it seemed it would be very easy to talk to her.
Your importance on faith – don't give up hope!
Love can be and is very important in life – to both children and adults!
Be a responsible parent!
You shouldn't have to go out and get pregnant to be loved.
How to help with choosing the right kind of life style
How to be an understanding parent, and to have respect for your children's feelings on certain topics.
Parenting takes a lot of patience, trust, guidance, and growth.
To always love your child even if they choose to become someone who you may not eant want them to be
Parenting is more than producing an offspring.
What choices there are to take in discipling a child
Children should trust their parent's decisions on certain matters.
Thank you for telling us that just because someone has sex with you does not necessarily mean they love you. I'm sick of seeing so many young scared, ignorant, and alone pregnant teenagers.
Excellent advice!
You should have rules and guidelines enforced while a child is very young.
Love is very important – everyone needs it, the young and old as well.
Parents know more about what their children are doing, than the child gives them credit for knowing.
Tell your children at a young age what you expect of them, and what path you would like for them to follow when they become old enough to decide.

1983 Youth Conference Seminar Questions

Dr. Richard Jones

1. & 2. Some question(s) or concern(s) I would like Dr. Jones to speak to in our Seminar this afternoon, but I would be hesitant to bring up is:

Are there any mental problems after having an abortion?
Why won't some guys use condoms?
Is it safe for a 40-year-old woman to get pregnant?
What is the age of the youngest woman to have become pregnant?
How do guys learn to use condoms?
Why is all the pressure on the girl to protect he self from getting pregnant – it's easier to use a condom than to take birth control pills, or to have to go to the doctor all the time.
Why do guys take sex so grossly – sex should be beautiful, but only if you want it to be.
Peer pressure is a cause.

3. The part of Dr. Jones' talk that I'll remember for a long time is:

The girl that had an abortion, and now is 18, and has two children.
The sound of an abortion stays with the potential mother.
The experience of an abortion.
Every part of the discussion was very informative!
The best part was how he described the college students.

NOTE: Few seminar sheets were completed because the speaker was late, and time allotted to fill out sheets cancelled.

Seminar Rotations and Topics

A — Sandra G. Marchese, M.S. . "Genetic Defects and Other Abnormalities"

B — Dr. Charlotte Garmen "Parenting — Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow"

C — Dr. Rick Jones..... "Potential Parenthood and Teenage Sexuality"

D — Film..... "Teenage Father"

Seminar Rotations and Time

Group	12:10-12:40	12:45-1:15	1:20-1:50	1:55-2:25
Red	A	B	C	D
Green	B	C	D	A
Blue	C	D	A	B
Yellow	D	A	B	C

A = Sandra Marchese, M.S.
B = Dr. Charlotte Garmen
C = Dr. Richard Jones
D = Film — "Teenage Father"

Lunch Rotation

	11:00-11:30	11:35-12:05
Green & Red	Lunch	Slide-Tape
Blue & Yellow	Slide-Tape	Lunch

Lunch will be prepared by the Lutheran Church Women.

Slide-Tape -- Presented by Shirley Lowery, R.N., Instructor of prenatal classes at the Washington County Hospital.

Fifth Annual Youth Conference on Adolescent Pregnancy and Birth Defects

Appendix K

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN! ... EVERYONE'S PROBLEM...

Fifth Annual Youth Conference on Adolescent Pregnancy And Birth Defects

Washington County March of Dimes

in cooperation with the

Board of Education of Washington County
the Washington County Hospital

and

St. John's Lutheran Church

November 17, 1983
St. John's Lutheran Church
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

— Program —

8:30- 8:50 ..... Registration

8:50- 9:00 ..... Introductions

9:00- 9:30 ..... "Genetic Defects and Other Abnormalities"
Sandra G. Marchese, M.S.
Department of Reproductive Services
Magee Women's Hospital
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

9:30- 9:40 ..... Comments/Break

9:40-10:10 ..... "Parenting — Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"
Dr. Charlotte Garmen
National Lecturer and
Consultant in Parent Education

10:10-10:20 ..... Comments/Break

10:20-10:50 ..... "Teenage Sexuality and
Potential Parenthood"
Dr. Richard Jones
Division of Adolescent Medicine
Georgetown Hospital
Washington, D.C.

10:50-10:55 ..... Comments

11:00-12:05 ..... Participants will be divided
into 2 groups for 2 rotations.
These include lunch and slide-tape program.
See back cover for details.

12:10-12:40 ..... Seminar Rotation

12:45- 1:15 ..... Seminar Rotation

1:20- 1:50 ..... Seminar Rotation

1:55- 2:25 ..... Seminar Rotation

2:30- 2:40 ..... Film: "Helping Hands"

2:40- 3:00 ..... Evaluation and Closing